

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An implant for use in replacing a nonfunctional tooth, the nonfunctional tooth having a root with an anatomical topography, the implant comprising:
an abutment; and
a base having a topography this is substantially identical to that of the root of the nonfunctional tooth.
2. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment and the base are fabricated from a single piece of material.
3. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment and the base are unitary.
4. The implant of claim 1 wherein a surface of the base is etched.
5. The implant of claim 1 wherein a surface of the base is sand blasted.
6. The implant of claim 1 wherein a surface of the base is coated with an integration-enhancing material.
7. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment is configured to receive a removable prosthesis.
8. The implant of claim 1 wherein the abutment and the base are non-unitary.
9. The implant of claim 8 wherein the abutment is threadingly engaged to the base.
10. The implant of claim 9 wherein the base includes a threaded hole and the abutment includes a screw for engaging with the threaded hole.
11. The implant of claim 1 further comprising a collar disposed between the abutment and the base.

12. A method for making a implant for a nonfunctional tooth, the implant having a base and an abutment, the nonfunctional tooth having a root with an anatomical topography, the method comprising:

receiving data indicative of the topography of at least the subgingival portion of the nonfunctional tooth; and

utilizing the data to mill an implant with a base having a topography that is substantially identical to that of the root of the nonfunctional tooth.

13. The method of claim **12** wherein the implant is milled from a single piece of material.

14. The method of claim **12** further comprising refining the implant.

15. The method of claim **14** wherein the refining step comprises treating the surface of the base of the implant.

16. The method of claim **15** wherein the treating step comprises etching.

17. The method of claim **15** wherein the treating step comprises sand blasting.

18. The method of claim **15** wherein the treating step comprises hydroxyapatite coating the base.

19. The method of claim **15** wherein the treating step comprises modifying the surface for enhancing integration with bone.

20. The method of claim **14** wherein the refining step comprises boring at least one hole into the base of the implant.

21. The method of claim **14** wherein the refining step comprising machining a collar between the base and the abutment.

22. The method of claim **12** further comprising sterilizing the implant.

23. The method of claim **12** further comprising packaging the implant.

- 24.** A method for replacing a nonfunctional tooth, the nonfunctional tooth having a root with an anatomical topography, the method comprising:
- receiving an implant having a base and an abutment, the base having a topography that is substantially identical to that of the root;
 - extracting the nonfunctional tooth, thereby leaving a site;
 - implanting the implant in the site
- 25.** The method of claim **24** further comprising preparing the site prior to implanting.
- 26.** The method for claim **25** wherein the preparing step comprises removing ligament fibers.
- 27.** The method of claim **24** further comprising treating the implant after implanting.
- 28.** The method of claim **27** wherein the treating step comprises temporizing the implant.
- 29.** The method of claim **27** wherein the treating step comprises stabilizing the implant.
- 30.** A method of claim **29** wherein the stabilizing step comprises stabilizing the implant with wire.
- 31.** A method of claim **29** wherein the stabilizing step comprises stabilizing the implant with a lingual plate.
- 32.** A method of claim **29** wherein the stabilizing step comprises stabilizing the implant with a temporary crown.
- 33.** The method of claim **24** further comprising installing a permanent crown on the abutment.